

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 24

Date of Meeting: July 11, 2000

Date Submitted: July 6, 2000

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Laurie Ringquist, Director of Administration
Subject: Public Hearing to Amend the Code of Laws Governing Membership Composition of the Research and Development Authority

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item is presented at public hearing for the Board to consider amending the Leon County Code of Laws governing the membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority.

Background:

During the 2000 legislative session, Representative Marjorie Turnbull introduced legislation that essentially gave the Board of County Commissioners authority to make all appointments to the Innovation Park Board except two. The presidents of Florida State University and Florida A & M University will maintain their authority to serve or appoint a designee to the Innovation Park Board. The legislation has since been signed into law by Governor Bush.

At its May 9, 2000 regular meeting, the Board reviewed and accepted recommended changes to the Code of Laws that were proposed by Sue Dick, President of the Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce, Pat McGill, Director of the Institute on Urban Policy and Planning at Florida A & M University, Dr. Ray Bye, Interim Vice President for Research in the Office of Research at Florida State University and Linda Nicholsen Executive Director of Innovation Park. A copy of the agenda item is included as Attachment #1.

Because changes to the Code of Laws are done through an ordinance, at its June 27, 2000-regular meeting, the Board approved a public hearing to be held on July 11. A copy of the ordinance with the proposed changes and the published Legal Notice of Public Hearing have been included as Attachment #2. Staff is requesting the Board revise the Code of Laws by adopting the amended Ordinance.

Analysis:

Prior to the new legislation, the Authority was composed of nine members (3 appointed by the BCC and one each from FSU, FAMU, The House of Representatives, The Senate President, The Board of Regents and the Mag Lab). The Board may now appoint no less than five members to the Authority, in addition to the representatives appointed by FSU and FAMU. Leon County's Ordinance has been amended to reflect the same. In addition, the ordinance allows the membership to include at least one tenant of Innovation Park. Other proposed language states that the membership may include representatives from the private business sector from Banking and Finance, Land Development/Real Estate, Marketing, and Land Use/Environmental Research.

The Ordinance also has language that allows the Board of County Commissioners to select the private business sector representatives from a list of names submitted by the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development Council of Tallahassee-Leon County, Inc., and the City of

Tallahassee Economic Development Office. With this change, the Authority would have seven members (5 appointed by the BCC and one each from FSU and FAMU). Should the Board adopt the amended Ordinance and subsequently revise the Code of Laws governing the Research and Development Authority's membership composition, two citizen appointments would need to be made; **One may be filled by a tenant of Innovation Park and one by a representative from the private business sector.** In addition, there is a vacancy on the Authority that is to be filled by a County Commissioner. The Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development Council of Tallahassee-Leon County, Inc., and the City of Tallahassee Economic Development Office have submitted three names for the Board's consideration. The list has been included as attachment #3. Only one of the names submitted, Jim Ferner, is a tenant of Innovation Park. The remaining two names, Penny Herman and Stan Barnes, are representatives from the private business sector. Each of those listed have indicated they would accept the post, should the Board chose to appoint them.

The following chart identifies the current vacancies as well as the current members and term expirations:

Full Board Appointment

Committee	Name	Originally Appointed	Date Reappointed	Term Expires	Status
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)					This is the Commissioner vacancy.
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)					This vacancy may be filled by a tenant of Innovation Park.
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)					This vacancy may be filled by a representative of the private business sector
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)	<i>Bruce Host</i>	04/25/00	N/A	09/30/02	Current. He was appointed to fill the unexpired (citizen) term of Manny Joanos.
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)	<i>Sylvia Jordan</i>	10/28/97	01/19/99	09/30/01	Current. This is a current citizen appointment.
Research and Development	<i>Frank Hamilton</i>	1992	N/A	N/A	Florida A & M University

Authority (Innovation Park Board)					appointment
Research and Development Authority (Innovation Park Board)	<i>Ray Bye</i>	1996	N/A	N/A	Florida State University appointment

Options:

1. Adopt the amended Ordinance which revises the Code of Laws governing the Research and Development Authority membership composition, appoint two of the citizens recommended in Attachment #3 and designate a commissioner appointment.
2. Adopt the amended Ordinance with appointments as determined by the Board.
3. Do not adopt the amended Ordinance and provide other direction to staff.

Recommendation:

Option 1.

Attachments:

- #1 May 9, 2000 Agenda Item
- #2 Proposed Ordinance and published legal notice of public hearing
- #3 Recommendations for Research and Development Authority Members